

**CLAIM AMENDMENTS:**

Claims 1-2 (Cancelled)

3. (Currently amended) A process for producing a water-absorbent resin, which comprises the step of polymerizing an aqueous solution of water-absorbent resin-forming monomers including acrylic acid and/or its salt as major components, wherein:

- (1) the polymerization initiation temperature is not lower than 50 °C;
- (2) the solid component concentration in a hydropolymer as formed by the polymerization is ~~less than 75~~ 73 weight % or less; and
- (3) the polymerization time is shorter than 3 minutes.

Claims 4-36 (Cancelled)

37. (Previously presented) The process of claim 3, wherein said solid content of said hydropolymer is 60 weight % to 73 weight %.